

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Brownfield
March 30, 2010

Selectmen Present: Carol Brooks, Erik Walker & Cindy Willets

Others Present: Frank & Alvina Day, Michelle Day, Kathy Fraize, Gary MacDonald (Superintendent – MSAD #72), Ephrem Paraschak (Denmark Town Manager), Richard Perreault, Jay Robinson (Principal – Molly Ockett Middle School), Mark Schraeder (Principal – Denmark School), Tara Warren & Nicole Watkins

The workshop mode of the meeting opened at 5:15 P.M. Selectmen reviewed and approved warrants and minutes. The business portion of the meeting opened at 6:00 P.M. Cindy Willets welcomed the guests that were in attendance.

Gary MacDonald spoke about the challenging year ahead for the school district. He handed out a reference sheet with key topics, proposed staff reductions, budget overview, state subsidies, tax assessment impact and projected increases. It is the goal of the school budget committee to meet the educational needs of the students in K-8 while being fiscally responsible. Fryeburg Academy, which serves students at the high school level, is private and under separate contract.

Next on the agenda was discussion on the Brownfield and Denmark Rec. Departments. Ephrem Paraschak handed out an informational sheet on the sports programs that was produced by Kelly Bowles, Denmark Rec. Director. The information was reviewed and determined to be fairly accurate. An actual inventory of sports equipment and uniforms is underway. A major difference between the Brownfield and Denmark Rec. Departments is that the majority of Denmark's funding is from the Denmark Lions Club while the majority of Brownfield's funding is from the actual taxpayers. For this reason, Brownfield is more accountable to their taxpayers. Another major difference is that Denmark only deals with sports while Brownfield has sports, a summer camp and community activities for all ages. There needs to be consistency with fees charged for residents of both towns. The Denmark School, which services Brownfield and Denmark children, is the common link between the two towns and is the central location since there are two separate Rec. Departments and Rec. Directors each with their own individual phone numbers and websites. It is hoped that the calendars can be linked between the towns and the school to make sharing of information easier on residents in both towns.

Frank reported on public works activities for week ending March 26th. On Monday, the F550 was put back together and running and Frank graded Burnt Meadow Road. More vehicle maintenance was performed on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. A safety workshop was sponsored by the State on Wednesday morning that the employees went to. A minor washout on Burnt Meadow Road near the culvert was repaired on Thursday and road sweeping was started on Porter Road, Thurston Road, Merrill Corner Road and Old County Road. The Porter Road was graded up near the little church and the

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Brownfield end of Farnsworth Road was also graded. The Selectmen received a letter from Carol Noonan & Jeff Flagg (representing SMAC and their neighbors) requesting that the dirt road portion of Dugway Road from the intersection with Walter Blake Road to their property not be paved as was possibly being planned. Patrons of SMAC like the mystique of this venue and like to travel up a country road to see a show. National and local journalists feature SMAC in countless articles describing the unique way of life in Brownfield and how you travel "up a dirt road to the Stone Mountain Arts Center". The Selectmen have accepted their request and will remove \$30,000 from the proposed paving budget for the upcoming year.

Chief Perreault reported a very quiet week and stated that they had a good turnout for their Hazmat Training that was held at the Brownfield Community Center.

The Selectmen will meet next Monday night at 5:00 P.M. to review warrant articles. They will have their regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday night starting at 5:30 P.M. and will meet at the Town Office on Wednesday, April 7th in order to attend a seminar in Augusta. The CEO will also be attending this seminar with them.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 8:25 P.M. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Watkins
Town Administrator

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Town of Brownfield
April 6, 2010

Selectmen Present: Carol Brooks, Erik Walker & Cindy Willets

Others Present: Frank & Alvina Day, Matt & Jen Coen, Richard Perreault & Linda Pestilli

The Selectmen met in workshop mode at 5:40 P.M. Cindy Willets opened the business portion of the meeting at 6:14 P.M. Warrants were reviewed and approved.

Frank Day reported on week ending April 2nd. Most of the time on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday was spent performing vehicle maintenance. Roads were also checked on Monday and the PW employees attended a training sponsored by Dig Safe on Tuesday. Work was done on Wednesday to repair a washout on Dugway Road in the vicinity of Stone Pond Road. This area has a tendency to wash out and a couple of loads of gravel were hauled in but it was too soft to haul in more at present. Frank also requested an increase in his budget to cover the rental of an excavator for a month for approximately \$3,000. Most of the use of this piece of equipment would be ditching on Dugway Road. This increase will be added to the article requesting funds for gravel road improvements. Discussion then followed on future paving and how to plan to get bids in early enough in order to save money when work is slower in the spring with paving companies. Having to wait for approval in June for funds that become available in July doesn't allow the Town to get in on lower paving estimates that typically take place in the spring.

Chief Perreault reported that the Fire Department responded to a couple of calls during the past week. One was an un-permitted burn on Pig Street and the other was for a lift assist for Fryeburg Rescue. There is a pending meeting in Fryeburg on April 21st regarding loss mitigation that Chief Perreault is unable to attend. It was deemed important that at least one of the Selectmen try and be in attendance. A call was made to Safety Works and they will get back in touch with Chief Perreault with a date that they are available to view all Town facilities in order to stay up to date with standards required to be met by the Bureau of Labor. When Safety Works is involved, you have six months in order to remedy any problems before the Bureau of Labor can step in.]

Next on the agenda was tennis court maintenance. Julie informed those present that with help from her husband (Tim) and the Rec. Director's husband (Matt), the shrub trees and bushes that were growing in and around the tennis court fencing were cut down and removed and the courts were swept of debris. The PW Department was thanked for hauling away the trees and bushes. There are several large cracks in the surface of the courts that need to be repaired to prevent injury to players. Julie is in contact with several companies that have products available that can be used to help maintain the playing surface and volunteers can perform this work to keep the cost down. The Rec. Department is also assisting with this project. Carol also reminded

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Julie that she had a net available that she would donate. This could be used as a replacement on the tennis courts or might be able to be used as a volleyball net since the Town's was stolen last year.

Linda Pestilli asked about health benefits for the Town employees. She wanted to know what plans were available, how much the deductible was for each plan, how many employees had insurance, what the Town actually contributed toward each employee and basically if it would be cheaper to get insurance other than through MMA. Julie did not have information available in front of her to answer these questions but could have had the answers to these questions had they been on the agenda. The Town only pays for the employee's portion of the insurance and those that choose to add spouse or family coverage have approximately \$204 a week deducted from their paycheck. Erik explained to Linda that MMA is a large organization that is able to pool their members together in order to get the best rate. Also, the Town pays dues to MMA in order to be a member and this is one of the benefits. The Town, however, is currently looking into other options for the Property & Casualty portion of insurance.

Matt Coen informed those present that the rear doors at the Community Center are installed and insulated. The material is on site for the other two doors and he will be starting those this week. A Representative from Chick's came to give a quote on what it would cost to replace the gym and office windows at the CC. This is a number to keep in mind if applying for grants at a future date. These would be vinyl, double hung, low-e double pane glass windows. The cost of the windows is approximately \$3,500 and the trim and labor would be an additional \$2,500.

Since the Planning Board was meeting at 7:00 P.M., the Selectmen moved the remainder of their meeting into the CEO's Office. At this time, the warrant was reviewed and approved pending discussed changes. Erik made a motion that was seconded by Carol to recess tonight's meeting until tomorrow at 12:30 P.M. All were in favor.

The Selectmen's Meeting from last night was reconvened at 12:40 P.M. on Wednesday, April 7th. Cindy then made a motion that was seconded by Erik to go into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405(6)C to discuss pending foreclosures. All were in favor. At 1:45 P.M., the Selectmen returned from Executive Session.

A decision was made to call a previous owner of a piece of foreclosed property asking if he was interested in buying back the property from the Town. He was then given the price agreed upon by the Selectmen and told that his decision would have to be given to the Treasurer by 3:00 P.M. on Friday, April 9th. If he agreed to buy the property back, the Selectmen would need 10% down in earnest money. This deposit would be non-refundable. If the previous owner decides not to buy back the property, the Selectmen will put this foreclosed property on the market to be sold by sealed bid.

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The Selectmen then requested that Julie place ads in the Shopping Guide, Bridgton News and Conway Daily Sun and its sister papers during the next two weeks asking for sealed bids to be in to the Town Office by 5:00 P.M. on May 4th regarding the purchase and sale of the old town garage on Dugway Road.

At 2:05 P.M., the Selectmen adjourned their meeting. They then drove to Augusta to attend a Board of Assessment Training sponsored by MMA. The CEO had also planned to go with them but was ill and unable to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie A. Watkins
Town Administrator